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are devoted mainly to an account of Fessenden's service in the Senate from 1854 to 1868, with very slight reference to what went on outside the Senate, whether in Fessenden's life or in the country generally. The author shows slight acquaintance with the historical literature of his period, although he sometimes attempts to give a general history of certain periods or questions. Even in dealing with Senator Fessenden, too much reliance is placed upon public speeches and debates. There is entirely too much undigested material from the "Congressional Globe" in the work—about 150 pages of lengthy quotations besides shorter ones and summaries of debates. The Report of the Joint Committee on Reconstruction is reprinted, as well as several senatorial opinions on the impeachment trial. Such matter is elsewhere accessible to most people who will read a life of Fessenden. In discussing financial matters little is done to show exactly what Fessenden did, why he did it, and why he was regarded as a master of public finance. The historical part of the work appears to be drawn directly out of the speeches of the time. Naturally men's views were then narrow and often superficial, and their language bitter, but that is no excuse for similar views or language fifty years later.

But the Life does add something to the sum of human knowledge. The author gives us a few new points about the impeachment trial and other important events, and his rigorous exclusion of nearly all that would tend to prove Fessenden a human being did not prevent the printing of some very interesting letters. How one wishes for more of them after reading forty pages of the "Globe"! Fessenden could make a letter readable. Take a few extracts from them: in regard to Tyler he said, "I wish the devil had him at the end of a pitchfork . . . a poor animal who was never worth the snuff of a candle, or a cheese-paring, or a quid of tobacco;" of Mrs. Madison he said that she "is as upright as a pillar of salt and in about as good preservation;" of the President who was acquitted by his vote he wrote "Andy is a fool."

W. L. FLEMING.

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Fisk, G. M. *International and Commercial Policies.* Pp. xv, 288. Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1907.

Dr. Fisk has given to teachers of commerce a book of great value for elementary work. The volume is primarily a text book, containing simple direct statements of facts rather than a discussion of policies. Starting with a general discussion of the meaning of commerce, especially in ancient and middle ages, the author proceeds to the development of modern commercial policies, discussing at length the Mercantile System, Free Trade and Protection. He next discusses the broad subject of Customs, dealing with its several topics, such as import and export duties, tariff and tariff systems and the technique of customs, such as *ad valorem*, specific and differential duties. Another section of the book is devoted to discussing commercial treaties, their nature, form and contents and the subject of reciprocity.

Dr. Fisk then devotes three chapters to the important subject of trade-promoting institutions both public and private. Under this heading, he discusses our consular service, our Department of Commerce and Labor, with its various bureaus, and such quasi-public institutions as the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Other suggestive chapters treat of commercial statistics, navigation, politics and public institutions for the promotion of navigation. The work is valuable for its clear English, its direct statements and its rounded treatment of a broad subject within the compass of a text-book of less than three hundred pages, including the excellent bibliographies appended to each chapter.

FRANK D. WATSON.

University of Pennsylvania.

Hadley, Arthur. *Standards of Public Morality.* Pp. 158. Price, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1907.

In this work, as in all his public utterances, President Hadley is eminently safe and sane. He has no patent medicine cure-all for the economic and political ills which retard the industrial and commercial progress of the country and threaten the permanency of democratic government. There is, he finds, a striking difference between the standards of public and private morality. In industrial and political life men are lauded and honored for doing the very things that are absolutely discredited in private life. Under these circumstances the usual process is to look to legislation for relief. The legislature is, however, under our system of government, a representation of special interests or of geographical sections each with its own wants. Thus legislation too often becomes a struggle for selfish ends rather than the intelligent consideration of measures for the common good. Democracy may thus become the instrumentality by which the majority tyrannizes over the minority, while constitutional government, on the other hand, may be used to support and protect the selfish interests of a class. The permanent interests of all classes are, however, much more nearly identical than their temporary ones, and an intelligent public opinion, appreciating this fact, will gradually establish and enforce standards of public morality that protect the weak from oppression and prevent the strong from abusing their power.

MAURICE H. ROBINSON.

University of Illinois.

Hunt, Wm., and Poole, R. L. (Editors). *The Political History of England*, in twelve volumes. Vol. V. From the Accession of Henry VII to the death of Henry VIII, 1485-1547. By H. A. L. Fisher. Pp. xx, 518. Price, \$2.60. New York: Longmans, Green & Co.

The general character of this series has been so fully commented on in earlier review articles in *THE ANNALS*, that it remains for the present review only to analyze and discuss this important and interesting volume, the